



VOLUME LXXI NUMBER 11

December 2024



EBARC
Meetings
Next meeting: Dec 13, 2024

Unitarian
Universalist
Church

Of Berkeley

Safir Room
1 Lawson Rd.,
Kensington, CA

Check your email for Zoom link.



The Executive Committee is currently meeting via Zoom on the Tuesday before the second Friday General Meeting.

Welcome EBARC Members to the twelfth edition of the *Blown Fuse* for 2024.

Please plan to join us at the meeting on December 13, 2024, in-person or on the Zoom Link.

Program: TBD

The Blown Fuse is published monthly by the East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and is a service provided as part of membership. *The Blown Fuse* welcomes articles of interest to its members and amateur radio in general. *The Blown Fuse* reserves the right to edit or reject any material submitted. Material submitted becomes the property of *The Blown Fuse*. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce material printed herein provided proper acknowledgment is given. Editor: Audrey Nieman W6BBQ
Deadline for January Issue is Dec. 26, 2024.

Blown Fuse Back Issues

The Internet Archive, where the digital versions of the Club newsletters are located was hacked, and taken down briefly this month. The area where EBARC newsletters (some predating the name “Blown Fuse”) are stored did go down with the hack. The servers have been restored and are newsletters are accessible with the URL:
<https://archive.org/details/east-bay-arc>

President's Message

A big shout out to Audrey, W6BBQ for her effort to prepare and send out dues renewals AND Officer ballots. Last year elections were tried via electronic mode. Emails were sent out to members to vote electronically. The response rate was adequate but not that great. With so much marketing-based emails filling your in-basket other mail gets lost. To try to raise the voting response rate we've reverted to mail-in based ballots. We will report the response rate and election results at the December meeting. At Field Day last June the W6CUS GOTA station used a wire off-center fed dipole antenna. An antenna used several times before at earlier Field Days. It was stored in a bin with other wire antennas without identifiers. I spent several hours unwinding, measuring and in one case repairing and labeling the four other antennas in that bin. I solicited advice from NI6A, K06NO, and AA6AT to identify the antennas. That is now done. They all can tune to the 80m band, some are better set up than others to tune other bands. The antennas will be individually bagged and labeled to allow quicker access for future use. As other Club Equipment is evaluated some decisions are expected to be made to determine whether these antennas are duplicative. Have you signed up for the 4Cs/EBARC/KARO-ECHO Potluck Christmas Party? There is room for 44 attendees. Cost is \$5 which offsets the cost of the door prizes. Let Jan, AC5RB, know if you are coming and what you intend to bring. Please text her at 510-846-3829. I, unfortunately, will be absent attending the performance of my granddaughter in the Nutcracker ballet which is happening at the same time. I'm sure I will be missing a fun time. The Holiday season is upon us. Winter has arrived a little early. I hope the November rains didn't negatively impact your radio activities. I trust you will reflect on the challenges, the successes, and the failures of 2024. May you receive much love and joy from your family and friends during this Holiday Season. Happy coming 2025.

Todd

Minutes of the November Meeting

The EBARC General Meeting was held on Friday November 8, 2024 as a hybrid meeting. The in-person meeting occurred at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkely (UUCB) at 1 Lawson Road, Kensington CA 94794-11015. The O-line meeting was held via the Zoom Internet Conferencing application. There were seven members and one guest in person and eight members on zoom. The meeting was called to order by President Todd Teachout W8BIK at 7:12 PM. Board members present were Vice President Howdy Goudy KE6BEE and Treasurer Audrey Nieman W6BBQ. Members present were Karen Fenton KK6ZPM, Jay Fenton KJ6WSS, Franz Kuypers KJ6IUV, Mathison Ott KJ6DZB and guest Harashi Cesana. On Zoom were Secretary Jan Kuhl AC5RB, members Joe Fisher K5EJL, Tim Eisler, KO6EMS, Robin Mitchell KN6CRP, Robin Spalding N6RLS, Dj Djovida KJ6DJ, Lorraine Schnurr KN6CRT and Chris Harwood AA6AT.

President Todd welcomed the members and guest and asked for any adjustment for the agenda or any comments. From Zoom there were introductions and Robin Spalding said he had been working on morse code and using blue tooth headphones to practice. He's working on the numbers and letters and keeping at it hopes to use his newfound talent at field day.

OFFICERS REPORTS

MINUTES-it was moved by Audrey and seconded by Karen to accept the minutes of the October 11, 2024 as printed in the Blown Fuse.

MOTION CARRIED

TREASURER REPORT- Audrey printed them in the Blown fuse. She also mentioned that she is accepting dues. Regular membership is \$35.00, Family membership is \$45.00. You can pay using EBARC P.O. Box 1393, El Cerrito CA 94530, or using Pay Pal at Treasurer@EBARC.org.

PROGRAM- Howdy announced that Mathison Ott KJ6DZB would be giving a presentation about MESH. The December program has not been planned yet but suggested a holiday social to share what members have been doing or plan to do or are looking for help.

PRESIDENT-Most of what he wants to present will be discussed later in the meeting. He did attend Pacificon and met with Kay Savetz of DLARC where our past Blown Fuse editions have been archived. There is a wealth of information to check out about Safety, non-profit organizations, old Radio Shack Catalogues and more. The Digital Amateur Radio Library/Internet Archive competes with the Library of Congress.

OLD BUSINESS- Jan reported that the CCCC club is hosting a holiday party and including EBARC and KARO-ECHO. It will be at Las Casitas Mobile Home Park, 3000 Broadway American Canyon on Sunday December 8, 2024 from 1-4PM. It will be a potluck and \$5.00 per person. There will be a gift for everyone. Please let Jan know by TEXT how many in your group and what you are bringing. Hope to see you all there.

NEW BUSINESS- Officers Election. Todd reached out to many different members to see if anyone was interested in an office. He will not be running for President for the next year. There were no confirmed acceptances. The current officers are already officers in other clubs. The present Board is willing to continue but would welcome responses. We have 56 members on our roster. Maybe some of you can reach out to encourage someone interested in serving.

PACIFICON- From our group Lorraine Schnurr, Robin Spalding, Todd Teachout, Chris Harwood and Mathison Ott attended. The event was sold out and back to pre-pandemic numbers. Due to volunteer limitations transcripts of the presentations were not prepared by the MDARC. Some presenters may have their presentation online at their personal websites. Lorraine said she saw the Sky Diving Ham Radio group that jumped from 22,000 feet connecting on 2-meter, 10-meter and 20-meter bands. There is also a parachute mobile.org website. Robin Spalding went on a fox hunt, and he learned what to listen for. HE FOUND THE FOX!!!!

BREAK Mathison Ott gave a presentation and slide show about MESH. He had a demonstration of it at Pacificon also. He showed around the world different connections, there is Bay Area Mesh (BAM) and Amateur Radio Emergency Data Network (AREDN) net that is in our area. He has put up a connection at the CCCC repeater site.

There are several options off the grid: ham radio, GMRS and MESH. MESH gives real-time high-speed data; it is not a cell phone. The company is constantly upgrading equipment. He showed several slides of worldwide routes and tunnels to transmit data.
Meeting adjourned 9:22
Respectfully Submitted
Jan Kuhl, Secretary

Treasurer's Report November 1, 2024

Balance Forward	\$12,622.18
Income:	
Deposit dues	410.00
PayPal Transfer	67.90
11/29 Interest	.09
Disbursements	.00
New Balance	\$13,100.17

Now accepting dues for 2025

Regular Member	\$35.00
Family Membership	\$45.00

PayPal to treasurer@ebarc.org

Or mail to:

EBARC

P.O. Box 1393

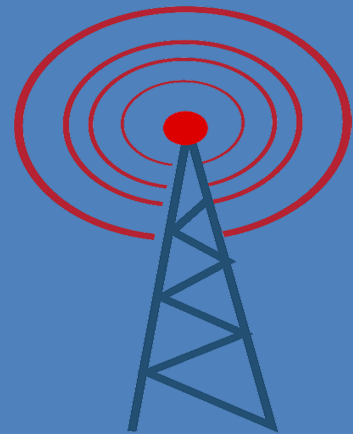
El Cerrito, CA 94530

PENDING ITEMS

CLUB Station: Still on-hold pending meetings with the UUCB Faith Leader, and Executive Director and/or other UUCB personnel.

Vacancies:

- Membership, 3rd VP
- Blown Fuse
Permanent Editor
- Licensed Volunteer
Examiners& Testing
- Coordinator Radio
Operator License
Test Prep
- Instructors
Community Support
(Sports events,
scouting, Maker
Faires)
- Program Presenters



25 years ago

The meeting was held at the Albany Senior Center. The president, John Wood, reflected on the year completing. He mentioned Field Day and the high score earned (4788 points, which made W6CUS 71st of 585 2A class stations) , the table at the Solano Stroll, the Fundraising raffle, as well as ongoing challenges of long-term siting of the club station with the Red Cross in the City or Richmond, and challenges with the Packet station. There issue included notice of the 4Cs/EBARC Holiday Party at the Vallejo Elks Lodge on December 12th. The December meeting was Gift Exchange and Desert Potluck. The November meeting minutes indicated that Program Chair Alan Eshleman gave a movie presentation of several air shows. The minutes also documented the election of the six club officers for the year 2000.

Raffle results were reported as the income earned from tickets sales from the various clubs in the region with a net income of about \$415. No mention of who won the raffle, which was a multiband HT.

50 Years ago

The December 1974 Issue could not be found.

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club, founded in 1947, is a California non-profit organization of amateur radio operators in Contra Costa and Alameda counties. The club is open to anyone with an amateur radio license. Annual dues are \$35 for individual membership, \$45 for family membership, and \$10 for students K-12. For information, send email to ebham.office@gmail.com, contact any EBARC officer, see Web page www.ebarc.org, or write EBARC, P.O. Box 1393, El Cerrito, CA 94530. You can also follow us on Twitter using @w6cus, or on Facebook's "East Bay Amateur Radio Club."

2024 East Bay Amateur Radio Club Executive Committee

Todd Teachout, W8BIK, President	510-799-6051
Jan Kuhl, AC5RB, Secretary.....	510-846-3829
Howdy Goudey, KE6BEE, 1 st VP / Program Chair	510-684-9097
Audrey Nieman, W6BBQ, / Membership Chair	510-682-7938
Audrey Nieman, W6BBQ, Treasurer / Finance Chair	510-682-7938

2024 EBARC's Other Committee Heads and Contacts

<i>Blown Fuse</i> Editor: Audrey Nieman, W6BBQ	510-682-7938
W6CUS Trustee Chris Harwood	510-332-7383
Webmasters: Chris & Isaac Harwood	510-332-7383

Bay Area Amateur Radio Nets

HF Nets: Add suggestions.

Net	Days	Time	PL	FREQ MHZ
Over the Hill Commuter CCCC	M-F	0710	82.5-	145.110
CCCC 220 Net	Tues	1930	82.5+	224.300
WC EMCOMM Net	Thu	1845	82.5	145.110
CCCC Evening Net	Thu	1930	82.5-	145.110
KARO/ECHO EMCOMM NET	Thu	1900	simplex	146.415
NALCO ARES EMCOMM Net	Thu	1915	77-	440.900
ORCA Net	Thu	1930	77	146.880
Bay Area EMCOMM Net	SAT	0900	82.5-	145.110
CCCC WC Net	Sat	0915	82.5-	444.275
Bay Area Comm Net	Sat	0930	82.5+	224.300
Cert FL Digi Net	Sat	1000	82.5+	444.275

HF Net Info

Wednesday Noon Net				
7.284	40m	LSB	Wednesday	12:00 Noon
Bay Area NVIS Net				
3.890	80m	LSB	Saturday	8:00 AM
Daily Nets				
7.2685	40m	LSB	Daily	12:00 PM (Noon)
7.264	40m	LSB	Daily	5.00 PM
3.906	80m	LSB	Daily	6:00 PM
3.975	80m	LSB	Daily	7:00 PM
3.952	80m	LSB	Daily	7:30 PM
14.305	20m	USB	14305DX Net	13:00z
14.345	20m	USB	Family Hour	14-17:00z
21.350	15m	USB	Family Hour	17:30z
7.258	40m	LSB	Midcars	5:30AM-11AM PST

DX peditions:

Rotuma Island (Fiji), IOTA, Nov 15- Dec 4, 2024, 3D2Z team is comprised of W6IZT, W8HC, K4NHW and others.

Tonga, Nov 25-Dec 6, 2024. A35GC team comprised of LZ1GC, LZ5QZ.

They will operate on 160 - 6m, CW, SSB, FT4, FT8, RTTY.

QSL via LZ1GC, LOTW, ClubLog OQRS.

QTH - Nuku'alofa, Tongatapu Islands, IOTA OC-049.

Sierra Leone, Nov 27-Dec 8, 2024. 9L5A team comprised of Members of F6KOP Club.

They will operate on 160 - 6m and QO - 100 satellite.

QSL via F5GSJ, LOTW, ClubLog OQRS.

Nigeria, January 2025, 5N9DTG Team will be active at Abuja, Nigeria. The team is comprised of Members of the Rebel DX Group.

They will operate on 160 - 6m, CW, FT8 and possible SSB.

QSL via ClubLog OQRS.

Benin, Jan 10-April 2, 2025, Gerard, F5RAV will be active as TY5.

He will operate on 80 - 10m, CW, FT8.

QSL via F5RAV.

More DX Peditions info at <https://dxnews.com/dxpeditions/>

Upcoming Activities

Contests		
Event Name	Info/Rules	Time/Date
Ham Spirit Contest	http://www.hamspiritcontest.com/	0800Z, Nov 30 to 0759Z, Dec 1
ARS Spartan Sprint	http://www.3830scores.com/	0100Z-0300Z, Dec 3
Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	https://qrptest.com/pigwalk20/autolog.php	0000Z-0100Z, Dec 5 and 0200Z-0300Z, Dec 6
ARRL 160-Meter Contest	http://www.arrl.org/160-meter	2200Z, Dec 6 to 1600Z, Dec 8
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	http://qrp.ru/contest/wakeup/333-wakeup-eng	0600Z-0800Z Dec 7 In four 30 min Sprints
4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	http://www.4sqr.com/SSS/sss_rules.pdf	0100Z-0300Z, Dec 9
ARRL 10-Meter Contest	http://www.arrl.org/10-meter	0000Z, Dec 14 to 2400Z, Dec 15
NTC QSO Party	https://pi4ntc.nl/ntcqp/	1900Z-2000Z, Dec 19
ARRL Rookie Roundup, CW	http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup	1800Z-2359Z, Dec 22
Original QRP Contest	http://www.qrpcc.de/contestrules/oqrpr.html	1500Z, Dec 28 to 1500Z, Dec 29

More Contest info at <https://www.contestcalendar.com>

And at <https://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>

Proposed Change to EBARC By-Laws

Your 2024 President identified a matter not well addressed in the Club Constitution and ByLaws. The acquisition and disposition of Club Equipment. Over the last few months, he's collaborated with members of the Executive Committee and a few other members to draft the following Proposed Amendments.

The Constitution and ByLaws underwent significant reviews and revision that were approved by the membership on July 7, 2021.

The approved Constitution and ByLaws can be found at:

https://www.qsl.net/w/w6cus/pdf/EBARC_Constitution_&_Bylaws_7-21.pdf

Overview:

EBARC members are contacted from time to time by members of the Community who want to dispose of Amateur Radio equipment. Often the request includes a need for assistance to dismantle antenna towers and antenna attached to buildings. Responses to such requests have been made on an Ad-Hoc basis and the people assisting use the opportunity to evaluate and acquire property. EBARC appears to acquire items from people who are ok with donating items(s) to the club. It is believed that most of the equipment in EBARC inventory was acquired this way.

The Club Constitution and By Laws offer little guidance and direction on handling these offers and the property that is transferred. Existing policies:

EBARC Constitution

Club Property – Article IX

“Any and all property purchased by or donated to the Club shall be property of the Club, and no member shall have a financial interest in and Club Money or Property.

EBARC Bylaws

There is no policy currently in place about club property.

What is proposed below is an effort to try to clarify such matters.

Proposed Amendments

Constitution

Club Property – Article IX

Amend Article IX to add:

Definition: Club Property shall be defined as a tangible product that can be stored or inventoried and has an average life of at least three years. Club Property shall also be defined as to include financial assets.

Products purchased by an authorized Club member or donated to the Club (and accepted) shall be the property of the Club. Club tangible product Property having value of \$100 or more shall be accounted for in an inventory. All Financial assets shall be accounted for. No member shall have a financial interest in any Club Property.

By-Laws

Add Article V

Equipment

Section 1: Procurement

Equipment is necessary for implementing Amateur Radio Operations and holding meetings. Equipment acquired by the Club may be purchased through club funds, by financial grant, or by donation. Equipment having values more than \$100 (2024 dollars) shall be documented in a Club Inventory. When possible, the inventory shall include the item description including make, model, function, serial number, value of equipment, date acquired shall be recorded. The inventory shall be maintained by Station Trustee or designee with a copy held by the Treasurer. The inventory should be reviewed and updated periodically (ideally annually) and reported to the Executive Committee.

Section 2: Acquisition of Donated Equipment

From time to time a member of the Club is contacted by a party (a.k.a. person(s) or organization(s) who want to dispose of amateur radio equipment in their possession. This contact includes an offer to sell or donate the equipment to the club. When these offers require effort to dismantle the equipment including but not limited to Antennas, Towers, Radio, Radio Accessories, the club members (including Station Trustee) responding to the inquiry shall decide whether or not to assist. Items offered to the club at a cost must first be approved by a majority of Executive Committee Members before it can be accepted for donation or purchase. This acceptance consideration may be informal via telephone or electronic communication methods between Club meetings. Equipment acquired by donation should include a "transfer of title" document/receipt which has details of the item(s) donated consistent with inventory information form.

Section 3: Donated Equipment Acquisition Team

Members of the Club who assist in the lawful acquisition and/or dismantling of amateur radio and related equipment offered to the club and accepted shall be called the Donated Equipment Acquisition Team (DEAT). The DEAT may be assisted by other people, a.k.a. non-members of the club.

DEAT members and assistants shall sign a Waiver of Liability release prior to participating in a dismantling or erecting event. The Waiver of Liability is intended to release the Club from accident or injury claims arising from amateur radio dismantling or erecting events.

The DEAT and assistants may be compensated for their efforts in the form of claiming equipment from the disposing party for their personal use if the equipment is not needed for club activities. The club has the first right to the donated item. The Station Trustee shall have the authority to determine the need for donated items shall be added to Club inventory. Equipment acquired but determined to be unnecessary for Club operations shall be sold with proceeds going into the club.

Section 4: Disposition of Equipment

Club tangible product Property has a finite life. The Station Trustee in consultation with the Executive Committee shall evaluate the ongoing need to keep Club Property in inventory. Items deemed no longer necessary shall be reported to the Executive Committee periodically. The Executive Committee shall make the decision to dispose of club equipment. The equipment being disposed of shall be offered to current club members. Club members may purchase the equipment for not less than fair value. The remaining equipment shall be offered for sale in accepted markets of used items (e.g., Craig's List, eBay). The remaining equipment shall be offered to Club members for no cost. Remaining items shall be disposed of and/or recycled for raw materials.